

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 SMS-02 IO-13 ACDA-12 CIAE-00  
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05  
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 MCE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00  
EB-08 AF-10 HA-05 BIB-01 SES-02 NEA-10 STR-07  
COME-00 /147 W

-----045898 021326Z /42

R 021236Z AUG 78  
FM AMCONSUL LENINGRAD  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4563  
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN  
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST  
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMCONSUL MUNICH  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USLO PEKING  
AMEMBASSY SOFIA  
USMISSION USNATO  
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, PINS, PARM, UR, US  
SUBJECT: LENINGRAD LECTURERS DISCUSS US-SOVIET RELATIONS

1. SUMMARY: IN JULY 31 QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION ON  
DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS IN CENTRAL LENINGRAD  
LECTURE HALL, SPEAKER DEVOTED CONSIDERABLE TIME TO  
PESSIMISTIC DISCUSSION OF US-SOVIET RELATIONS, DESCRIBED  
AS GOING FROM BAD TO WORSE. JULY 21 LECTURE ON SINO-SOVIET  
RELATIONS BY ARMY OFFICER IN UNIFORM (SEPTTEL) CONTAINED  
PERHAPS SHARPEST ATTACK SEEN FROM HERE ON DR. BRZEZINSKI'S  
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VISIT TO CHINA. END SUMMARY.

2. FAMILIAR ZNANIYE SOCIETY LECTURER MOISEENKO BEGAN TO  
ANSWER WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS 100 QUESTIONS ON FOREIGN  
AFFAIRS BY DISCUSSING US-SOVIET RELATIONS, IMPLYING THIS  
WAS TOPIC OF PRIMARY INTEREST. HE SET TONE BY SAYING THAT  
BILATERAL RELATIONS HAVE NOT ONLY WORSENERED BUT ARE CON-

TINUING TO GET STILL WORSE. HE SINGLED OUT AS CONCRETE ACTIONS WHICH HAVE RECENTLY FURTHER DAMAGED RELATIONS WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS PRESIDENT'S DECISION TO STOP SALE OF COMPUTER ORDERED LONG TIME AGO AND \$140 MILLION OIL DRILLING BIT FACTORY, AND TO ESTABLISH HIS PERSONAL CONTROL OVER ALL FURTHER SALES TO USSR. THIS ACTION INEVITABLY "COMPLICATES OUR RELATIONS."

3. SPECULATING BRIEFLY ON CAUSE OF PRESIDENT'S ACTION, MOISEENKO SAID WITHOUT ELABORATING THAT INTERNAL REASONS WERE A FACTOR. BUT, HE ADDED, U.S. IS ALSO REVIEWING ITS WHOLE APPROACH TO USSR. THOSE FAVORING SUCH A REVIEW PRESENT ISSUE IN FOLLOWING TERMS: USSR SHOULD EITHER ACCEPT STATUS QUO AND U.S. POSITIONS IN THE WORLD OR FACE CONFRONTATION. IN ONLY SLIGHTLY OPTIMISTIC ASPECT OF HIS PRESENTATION, MOISEENKO CLAIMED THAT THERE WAS SHARP DIVISION INSIDE U.S. OVER ISSUE OF DETENTE, WITH PEOPLE DISCUSSING WHAT SOVIETS ARE AFTER, AND WHAT U.S. SHOULD SEEK. WHILE OFFICIALS AND PRESS TRY TO GIVE IMPRESSION THAT MAJORITY ARE ON PRESIDENT'S SIDE, THIS IS NOT, IN FACT, TRUE. (AT THIS POINT, MOISEENKO READ LONG QUOTE FROM GEORGE KENNAN CRITICAL OF ADMINISTRATION'S POLICY.) HINTING AT PERHAPS AN UNDERLYING REASON FOR SOVIET PESSIMISM OVER FUTURE COURSE OF US-SOVIET RELATIONS, MOISEENKO PICTURED AN INEVITABLE STRUGGLE BETWEEN U.S. AND USSR BECAUSE WORLD TRENDS ARE MOVING TO THE LEFT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WHILE U.S. IS MOVING TO RIGHT.

4. RECENT LECTURES HAVE TOUCHED ON DIFFERENT INTERESTING ASPECTS OF US-SOVIET RELATIONS IN FOLLOWING VEIN:

-- SALT: "IT IS UNLIKELY THAT WE WILL GET A NEW AGREEMENT THIS YEAR."

-- BRZEZINSKI AND CHINA: RECENT VISIT BY DR. BRZEZINSKI WAS DENOUNCED BY ARMY OFFICER LECTURER AS PRESSURE TACTIC BY U.S. DESIGNED TO EXTRACT CONCESSIONS FOR SECRETARY VANCE IN SALT TALKS IN GENEVA BY THE THREAT OF OTHERWISE MOVING CLOSER TO PEKING. BRZEZINSKI WAS DESCRIBED AS "BLATANT ANTI-SOVIET EVIL INTENTIONED ENEMY" (YAROSTNIY ANTI-SOVYETNIK, ZLOBNIY VRAG).

-- AFRICA: U.S. CONSIDERS THIS CONTINENT VERY VITAL (BY IMPLICATION FOR AMERICAN INTEREST). U.S. ARGUES THAT IT CAN HAVE NORMAL RELATIONS WITH USSR IF ONLY SOVIETS WILL NOT MIX IN AFRICAN PROBLEMS. THEY WANT USSR TO GIVE UP ITS SUPPORT OF NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENT BUT THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE. WE CANNOT REJECT THIS FUNDAMENTAL

PRINCIPLE OF OUR POLICY.

-- HUMAN RIGHTS: MOISEENKO SAID HE HAD RECEIVED 19  
QUESTIONS ON THIS ISSUE. HE PROCEEDED TO DISCUSS VERY  
BRIEFLY A NUMBER OF CASES. FILATOV WAS DESCRIBED AS  
HAVING BEEN TRAITOR STARTING FROM PERIOD OF SERVICE IN  
ALGERIA. EXPLAINING WHY SHCHARANSKIY WAS NOT SHOT LIKE  
FILATOV, SPEAKER SOUGHT (INDISTINCTLY TO CONGEN AUDIENCE)  
TO EXPLAIN THAT HIS DEGREE OF COMPLICITY WITH WESTERN

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INTELLIGENCE WAS LESS. SPEAKER MADE MENTION OF SPECIAL  
MESSAGE SENT BY PRESIDENT CARTER, AND SAID SOMETHING ABOUT  
U.S. BEING AFRAID THAT ITS INVOLVEMENT WITH SHCHARANSKIY  
WILL BE "UNMASKED." GINSBURG RECEIVED \$2,000 FROM ABROAD.  
MENTION WAS ALSO MADE OF PETKUS TRIAL IN LITHUANIA AND OF  
UNNAMED PERSON IMPRISONED IN THE UKRAINE; SPEAKER  
OMINOUSLY PREDICTED THERE WOULD BE FURTHER SUCH TRIALS  
IN THE FUTURE. HE DISENGENUOUSLY TOLD AUDIENCE THAT

SOVIET STATE WOULD NOT TOUCH ANYONE FOR EXPRESSING AN  
OPINION, BUT THAT PERSON WOULD BE TRIED IF HE BECAME A  
FOREIGN AGENT. PRESIDENT CARTER WAS ACCUSED OF SEEKING  
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TO "CREATE A LEGAL OPPOSITION" PAID BY THE WEST. "THIS  
NEVER WAS AND NEVER WILL BE."

-- EMIGRATION: SPEAKER, ANSWERING QUESTIONS ON  
DOMESTIC POLICY, WAS ASKED ABOUT REDUCTION IN RUSSIAN  
POPULATION (PERHAPS GARBLED MISUNDERSTANDING OF SLAV  
VERSUS CENTRAL ASIAN DEMOGRAPHIC ISSUE DISCUSSED IN  
WEST). OBLIQUELY REFERRING TO JEWISH EMIGRATION, HE  
REPLIED THAT THERE IS NOT A REDUCTION IN RUSSIAN POPULA-  
TION THAT HE KNOWS. "IT IS NOT RUSSIANS WHO ARE LEAVING  
USSR." MOISEENKO LATER DISCUSSED EMIGRATION DIRECTLY,  
ARGUING APPARENTLY WITH SCEPTICS, THAT IT IS LOGICAL THAT  
IT SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE GIVEN CLASS NATURE OF  
SOCIETY. HE CITED VARIOUS MOTIVES FOR LEAVING, MADE SOME  
SNIDE COMMENT ABOUT SLOGAN "LET US GO TO ISRAEL" IN CON-  
TEXT OF SENTENCES HE CITED FOR TWO SLEPAKS.

-- LEND LEASE: THIS PERENNIAL QUESTION FROM  
PENSIONER HARDHATS WAS ANSWERED WITH USUAL REASSURANCE  
THAT USSR IS NOT PAYING ANYTHING SINCE U.S. HAS NOT  
ELIMINATED DISCRIMINATORY TRADE LEGISLATION. AS A RESULT,  
TOTAL TRADE LAST YEAR WAS \$1.9 MILLION AND IT WILL BE LESS  
THIS YEAR.

-- PURCHASES FROM ABROAD. SPEAKER ALSO APPARENTLY  
HAD TO DEFEND POLICY OF PURCHASING PLANTS FROM ABROAD BY  
REFERRING TO PRINCIPLE OF INTERNATIONAL DIVISION OF LABOR,  
ARGUING THAT IT IS CHEAPER FOR USSR TO BUY PLANTS ABROAD  
THAN MANUFACTURE THEM AT HOME.

-- FOREIGN TRAVEL: MOISEENKO FUMBLED CLUMSILY  
QUESTION OF WHY USSR FROWNED ON FOREIGN TRAVEL WHEN THERE  
IS FREEDOM OF TRAVEL ABROAD. HE ARGUED EACH SIDE LOOKS  
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AT THESE QUESTIONS THROUGH OWN EYES IN WORLD OF CLASS  
WARFARE. SO LONG AS THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO UNFORTUNATELY  
HAVE NOT SHED BOURGEOIS CONSCIOUSNESS IN USSR, THERE MUST  
BE RESTRICTIONS.

-- JULY 4 CONCERT. ONE MEMBER OF AUDIENCE ASKED WHY

JULY 4 CONCERT ON PALACE SQUARE WAS CANCELLED. MOISEENKO ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THERE WAS TASS ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT CONCERT, AND THAT SPECTATORS HAD BEEN QUITE UPSET (VOZMUSHCHENIYE) WHEN CONCERT DID NOT TAKE PLACE. HE ALSO NOTED THAT THIS WAS U.S. INDEPENDENCE DAY. HE ADDED THAT MEASURES HAD BEEN TAKEN IN CONNECTION WITH THIS EVENT AGAINST ONE LOCAL OFFICIAL (COMMENT: INDIRECTLY CONFIRMING REPORT WE HAVE HEARD THAT HEAD OF LENFILM, V. V. BLINOV, HAS BEEN REMOVED). TO SHOUTS FROM AUDIENCE "BUT WHY WAS CONCERT CANCELLED," LECTURER LAMELY COMMENTED: "BECAUSE AMERICAN ARTISTS DIDN'T COME."

5. ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS, LECTURER REFERRED TO DIFFICULTY OF PRESENT SITUATION, AND DETERMINATION OF USSR TO SHOW MAXIMUM VIGILANCE AND TO INCREASE ITS EFFORTS TO FRUSTRATE ALLEGED EFFORTS OF U.S., NATO, AND CHINA TO REVIVE COLD WAR. BUCHANAN

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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